

IOWAccess Project 14

Integrated Client Information for Mental Health Services

Monday, April 27, 1998, 1:30 p.m.
Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Room 975, Federal Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Meeting Summary

Project 14 Members Present:

Harold Templeman, Project 14 Lead
Deb Westvold, Project 14 Lead
Tammy Adkins, DOE
Larry Allen, DHS
Suzanne Fross, DHS
Mae Hingtgen, Cherokee CPC (remote)
Steve Kerber, CPC
Jason Lucy, DHS
Sandy Mireles, CPC (remote)
Joel Weichman, DHS

Staff:

Marybeth Foster, SPPG
Linda Plazak, ITS
Matt Theobald, Iowa Interactive

Welcome and Introductions

Harold Templeman began the meeting with self-introductions in Des Moines and the remote sites.

Review of Project 14 Status

Harold Templeman commented Project 14 is progressing on schedule. Training with county CPCs has been completed. The purpose of this meeting is to see how the counties are doing with using the system, along with updates from DHS and Project 1 representatives.

Report from Pilot Counties and DHS staff

Deb Westvold asked CPCs how the project was progressing. Steve Kerber reported he has not yet loaded the software to test it. Sandy Mireles reported she is using the system to send data. Mae Hingtgen has received COMIS, but needs the DHS file diskette. Hingtgen will call Richard Hendricks of McGladdery to ask him to email the file, which include certifications needed to get access to the web site and then to get access to files on to the server. Joel Weichman reported DHS is waiting

to be able to automate information to the DHS server to allow communication with the mainframe. This component should be ready in the next week.

Update from Project 1

Matt Theobald and Linda Plazak were present, representing Project 1, the IOWAccess front door. Linda Plazak announced contract had been signed with Iowa Interactive. Legislation was passed to continue funding for Iowa Interactive into the next fiscal year. Delays with legislative action have left Project 1 about 4-5 months behind. However, Iowa Interactive has submitted a work plan and can complete Project 1 on schedule. Plazak explained all teams are being asked for detailed work plans. ITS will be using these work plans to monitor project activity. All teams will have meetings every 2 weeks with ITS. Plazak said ITS will have projects concluded by Sept. 30. Plazak explained Theobald would be taking over her role in interfacing with agencies.

Theobald reported it appears Project 14 has accomplished what it must in relationship with Project 1, except for a descriptive page on the web site. Theobald explained Iowa Interactive would help facilitate projects as a consultant, and assist with any technology needs.

Plazak asked if McGladdery had completed its work for Project 14. Templeman explained McGladdery's role was about 95 percent completed. Templeman stated Project 14 is at the true implementation phase with counties putting information in the system. Larry Allen noted the pilot counties are testing the system and working out the kinks. Westvold noted there has been a challenge in getting the institutional data.

Next Steps

Templeman explained Project 14 is in the testing phase. Plans still call for the project to move to statewide implementation if funding permits. Allen is applying for federal funding to help move the project forward. Templeman also noted DHS is looking at setting up a data warehouse.

Templeman, Westvold, and Fross will design some sample scenarios for the counties to use in testing the system. To get a good indication of how the system works in a practical setting, the pilot counties will be asked to use these test scenarios and report their experiences and comments on how the system works. This will likely require the participating CPCs to obtain releases of information from some of their consumers. A draft of this testing procedure will be available for the next team meeting.

Questions were raised about the relationship between Project 1 and Project 14. Plazak explained Project 1 will be ongoing as part of IOWAccess. ITS has contracted with Iowa Interactive, but ITS will continue to be responsible for the overall IOWAccess project. Even though Project 14 funding will run out, Iowa

Interactive will create an Internet page with mental health information that is not confidential.

Other Issues

Security

Plazak also explained ITS has contracted with CTA to do a security plan for IOWAccess.

Funding

Weichman noted if Project 14 is to move statewide, there will be issues of daily maintenance, new users identification, etc, which will require ongoing funding.

Project Evaluation

Templeman explained Project 14 is required to complete a project evaluation and submit a report to ITS by September 30. The evaluation should assess what the project was supposed to accomplish, what was accomplished, and what remains to be done.

Plazak also suggested any barriers to the project be included. ITS will provide a template for the final report to the team leads.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on June 2, 1998, from 1:30-3:30, location TBA.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.